

Docket No. DE 2305.02 US
USSN: 09/866,337

PATENT
Art Unit: 2872

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 8-15, and 17-20 are pending in the present application.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed March 1, 2005. In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 18-20 for their informalities, rejected claims 1, 3-5, 8-15, and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicant has amended claims 1, 11, 12, 14, 17, and 18. Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

I. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 18-20 are objected to because of the informalities. Applicant has amended the claim(s) accordingly. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the objections be withdrawn.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected, under U.S.C. § 103(a), claims: (1) 1, 3-4, 11-13, and 18-19 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,999,509 issued to Sugiura, et al. ("Sugiura"), (2) claims 5, 8-10, and 20 as being unpatentable over Sugiura in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,870,268 issued to Vincent et al. ("Vincent"), (3) claims 14 and 17 as being unpatentable over Sugiura in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,113,387 issued to Goldsmith et al. ("Goldsmith"), (4) claim 15 as being unpatentable over Sugiura in view of Goldsmith as applied to claim 14 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,283 issued to Fukakusa et al. ("Fukakusa"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for the following reasons.

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Sugiura discloses an optical head device or a pickup device capable of irradiating a plurality of independent different light beams and receiving return light with simple structure (Abstract). The optical device comprises a first light-penetrable material having a first side and a second side wherein a first reflecting light of the first side has a different angle from a second reflecting light of the second side wherein the second reflecting beam passes through the first side and causes a refractive light at an identical optical axis (Fig. 19).

Vincent discloses that optical reflecting surfaces of beam splitters may be fabricated from dichroic optical coatings (Col. 6, lines 19-68), and that the reflective faces may be parallel to each other (Figures 3, 21, Col. 6, lines 33-39). Goldsmith discloses a first optical plane and a second optical plane for respectively reflecting a first light and a second light to an identical optical axis (Figure 4). Fukakusa discloses an optical pickup device where multiple light sources are provided in a same package (Fig. 7).

Sugiura, Vincent, Goldsmith, and Fukakusa, however, taken alone or in any combination, do not disclose, suggest, or render obvious an optical device being in an optical system of the optical read/write head having a bending optical path. This aspect of the invention is supported in the specification on page 7 (lines 11-14), Fig. 10 and is recited in amended claims 1, 11, 12, 14, 17, and 18.

Therefore, Applicant believes that independent claims 1, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, and their respective dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited prior art references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections under 35 § 103(a) be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

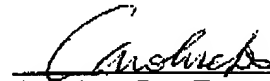
In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any required fees associated with this Communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1175.

Respectfully submitted,

DISCOVISION ASSOCIATES

Dated: May 31, 2005


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